Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 ABIDJA 08053 01 OF 02 051805Z

46
ACTION AF-04

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 NEA-06 IO-03 EA-07 EUR-10 SP-02

NSC-07 NSCE-00 L-02 INR-10 CIAE-00 PRS-01 EB-03 PM-03

DODE-00 SAM-01 SAB-01 ARA-10 SAJ-01 DRC-01 /087 W
---------- 015891
R 051105Z OCT 74
FM AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 467
INFO USUN 409
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
USLO PEKING
/AMEMBASSY TAIPEI 68
AMEMBASSY SEOUL
AMEMBASSY SAIGON
AMEMBASSY PHNON PENH
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU
AMEMBASSY NIAMEY
AMEMBASSY LOME
AMEMBASSY COTONOU
AMEMBASSY ACCRA
USINT ALGIERS

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 ABIDJAN 8053

LIMDIS

PASS USIA FOR I,IOP, IAA

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: USUN, ECON,EGEN,EIND,ENRG,PFOR,CH,TW,KN,KS,VN,VS,CB,IV,XA
XF,XI,XY
SUBJECT: MEETING WITH PRESIDENT HOUPHOUET-BOIGNY ON WORLD SITUATION
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 ABIDJA 08053 01 OF 02 051805Z

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

REF: A. USUN 3510; B. STATE 214655

SUMMARY. AS HIGHLIGHT OF USIA DIRECTOR JAMES KEOGH'S VISIT TO ABIDJAN (OCTOBER 3-4), APPOINTMENT WAS ARRANGED WITH PRESIDENT HOUPHOUET-BOIGNY. WHAT BEGAN AS MERE COURTESY CALL BECAME A LENGTHY PRESENTATION BY HOUPHOUET OF IVORY COAST'S OUTLOOK ON WORLD ECONOMIC AND FOREIGN POLICY PROBLEMS, WITH RESPONSES GIVEN TO A FEW ISSUES OF PARTICULAR INTEREST TO USG. MEETING LASTED ONE HOUR, DEALING WITH PETROLEUM PRICES, OTHER RAW MATERIAL PRODUCER BLOCS, MIDDLE EAST SOLUTIONS, CHINA, KOREA, VIETNAM AND CAMBODIA. OF INTEREST TO USUN: IVORY COAST WILL CONTINUE TO SUPPORT SOUTH KOREA, SOUTH VIETNAM AND PROBABLY ABSTAIN ON CAMBODIA ISSUE. END SUMMARY.

1. USIA DIRECTOR JAMES KEOGH, ACCOMPANIED BY USIA ASSISTANT DIRECTOR FOR AFRICA JAMES MCGINLEY, AMBASSADOR AND PAO WERE RECEIVED BY PRESIDENT FELIX HOUPHOUET-BOIGNY FOR ONE HOUR ON OCTOBER 3.

2. KEOGH OPENED BY TELLING PRESIDENT HE IS THOUGHT OF IN USA AS "GEORGE WASHINGTON OF IVORY COAST." PRESIDENT REPLIED THAT GEORGE WASHINGTON IS HIS IDOL, A MAN WHO LED HIS COUNTRY TO INDEPENDENCE, WAS ITS FIRST PRESIDENT AND "KNEW WHEN TO RETIRE" SO HE COULD SIT ON THE SIDELINES TO WATCH ITS PROGRESS. COMMENT: HOUPHOUET EQUALLY STRONG INDICATIONS THAT HE IS BEING URGED TO REMAIN FOR ANOTHER FIVE-YEAR TERM; THAT COUNTRY IS NOT YET READY FOR HIS RETIREMENT.

3. KEOGH THANKED PRESIDENT FOR HIS SUPPORT FOR NEW LOCATION OF AMERICAN CULTURAL CENTER. PRESIDENT REPLIED THAT HE THANKS USA, SINCE IVORIANS BENEFIT FROM PRESENCE OF CENTER.

4. KEOGH THEN INVITED AMBASSADOR TO RAISE CERTAIN FOREIGN POLICY ISSUES THAT WERE OF CONSIDERABLE CONCERN TO USG. PRESIDENT WAS DELIGHTED TO ENTER INTO SUCH DISCUSSION.

5. AMBASSADOR EXPRESSED CONCERN THAT FOREIGN MINISTER USHER'S UNGA SPEECH OF SEPTEMBER 27 (REFTEL A) HAD URGED ESTABLISHMENT OF PRODUCER CARTELS TO EMULATE PETROLEUM PRODUCERS AND WAY OF IMPROVING LDC TERMS OF TRADE. AMBASSADOR SAID USG POSITION, AS RECENTLY ENUNCIATED BY PRESIDENT FORD, SECRETARY KISSINGER AND SECRETARY SIMON, CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 ABIDJA 08053 01 OF 02 051805Z

WAS RATHER TO PUSH FOR REDUCTION IN PETROLEUM PRICES AND INTERNATIONAL

COOPERATION IN MEETING ENERGY CRISIS.

6. THIS LED HOUPHOUET INTO 35-MINUTE MONOLOGUE ON INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC SITUATION, PEACE IN MIDDLE EAST, DIVIDED NATIONS IN ASIA. DETAILS WILL BE REPORTED IN AIRGRAM, BUT HIGHLIGHTS SUMMARIZED BELOW:

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

A. LDC'S MORE SEVERELY HURT THAT DC'S BY OIL PRICE HIKES, BUT HAVE NO POWERTO CHANGE OIL PRODUCERS' POLICIES. OF COURSE, IF INDUSTRIAL NATIONS CAN BEING ABOUT REDUCTION, IC WOULD WELCOME IT. FAILING THIS, HOWEVER, AND IN VIEW OF SERIOUS DETERIORATION IN TERMS OF TRADE, OTHER PRDUCERS OF RAW MATERIALS NEED TO FIND WAY TO BRING VALUE OF THEIR PRODUCTS UP HIGH ENOUGH TO BE ABLE TO CONTINUE DEVELOPMENT IN SPITE OF INCREASED PETROLEUM AND INDUSTRIAL GOODS' PRICES. IC HURT MORE SERIOUSLY THAN ANY OTHER WEST AFRICAN NON-PETROLEUM PRODUCING COUNTRY, SINCE ECONOMY HAS ADVANCED FAR ENOUGH THAT IT DEPENDS HEAVILY ON BOTH PETROLEUM AND PETROLEUM DERIVITIVE IMPORTS AND INDUSTRIAL GOODS IMPORTS.

B. JUST BECAUSE IC SUPPORTED "ARAB BROTHERS" BY BREAKING RELATIONS WITH ISRAEL (AND HOUPHOUET STRESSED IC WAS LAST AFRICAN NATION TO DO SO AND DID SO MOST UNHAPPILY IN VIEW OF CLOSE FRIENDSHIP WITH ISRAEL AND USEFUL ISRAELI ACTIVITIES IN IC) DOES NOT MEAN THAT HE WILL
NOW GO HAT-IN-HAND TO ARAB OIL PRODUCERS FOR LOANS AND ECONOMIC AID. HE DOES NOT WANT TO BE BEHOLDEN TO THEM, AND WOULD RATHER CONTINUE TO BE PART OF "WEST".

C. HE FEARS THAT WORLD INFLATION AND WORSENING TERMS OF TRADE OF LDC'S
WILL FORCE MANY LDC'S INTO COMMUNIST HANDS, UNLESS INDUSTRIALIZED NA-TIONS WILLING TO BE MORE HELPFUL, BOTH IN TERMS OF AID AND IN TERMS OF PAYING MORE FOR NON-PETROLEUM RAW MATERIAL.

D. HE REMAINS STRONGLY ANTI-COMMUNIST. HE HAS NO INTENTION OF RESUM-ING DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH USSR (WHICH HE BROKE IN 1969 OVER SOVIET

MEDDLING IN INTERNAL IVORIAN AFFAIRS). HE CERTAINLY WON'T GO TO PEKING. HIS FOREIGN POLICY IS MORE PRO-US THAN PRO-FRENCH, IN THAT HE CONFIDENTIAL

STILL RECOGNIZES REPUBLIC OF CHINA, AS WELL AS SOUTH KOREA AND SOUTH VIETNAM AND NOT THEIR NORTHERN RIVALS.

E. HE IS VERY CONCERNED THAT "ARMED PEACE" HAS RETURNED TO MIDDLE EAST, MAINLY BECAUSE GREAT POWERS ARE OVERLOOKING THE HUMAN FACTOR AND

NNN

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 ABIDJA 08053 02 OF 02 051805Z

46
ACTION AF-04

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 NEA-06 IO-03 EA-07 EUR-10 SP-02

NSC-07 NSCE-00 L-02 INR-10 CIAE-00 PRS-01 EB-03 PM-03

DODE-00 SAM-01 SAB-01 ARA-10 SAJ-01 DRC-01 /087 W
---------- 015888
R 051105Z OCT 74
FM AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 468
INFO USUN 410
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMMAN 19
AMEMBASSY DAMASCU
USLO PEKING
AMEMBASSY TAIPEI
AMEMBASSY SEOUL
AMEMBASSY SAIGON
AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU
AMEMBASSY NIAMEY
AMEMBASSY LOME
AMEMBASSY COTONOU
AMEMBASSY ACCRA
USINT ALGIERS

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 ABIDJAN 8053

LIMDIS

HISTORICAL RIGHTS OF PALESTINIANS. UNTIL A SEPARATE STATE IS
ESTABLISHED
FOR THEM, THERE CAN BE NO REAL PEACE IN THE REGION. IT IS NOT SUFFI-
CIENT FOR THERE TO BE TRUCES BETWEEN ISRAEL AND EGYPT, ISRAEL AND
JOR-
DAN AND ISRAEL ANDSYRIA, AND JORDAN CANNOT SPEAK FOR PALESTIANIANS.
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 ABIDJA 08053 02 OF 02 051805Z

(HERE HE WENT ALMOST WORD-FOR-WORD INTO IDEAS EXPRESSED BY USHER AT
UNGA, LEADING US TO BELIEVE THAT HE WAS PRINCIPAL AUTHOR OF USHER'S
SPEECH.)

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

F. HOUPHOUET MADE CLEAR TO US THAT HE KNOWS THE LEADERS
IN THIS AREA WELL. HE CITED HIS TALKS WITH THE NORTH AFRICAN
ARABS AT ADDIS (OUA) AND ALGIERS (NON) MEETINGS LAST YEAR, AS WELL AS
VISITS HE RECEIVES EVERY THREE MONTHS FROM A PLO DELEGATION, HEADED
(HE STRESSED) BY A PALESTINE CHRISTIAN. (HIS FORMER CLOSE RELATIONS
WITH ISRAELI LEADERS ARE WELL KNOWN TO DEPARTMENT.) THUS, HE
BELIEVES HE KNOWS WHEREOF HE SPEAKS.

7. AMBASSADOR WAS FINALLY ABLE TO INTERJECT USG CONCERN THAT PRO-
DUCER CARTELS WOULD BE EVEN MORE INFLATIONARY AND NOT ACHIEVE WHAT
PRESIDENT SOUGHT; THAT NEVERTHELESS USG IS DEEPLY CONCERNED OVER
DEVELOPMENT PROBLEMS AND HAS SHOWN NEW INTEREST IN COOPERATIVE
CONSUMER-PRODUCER ARRANGEMENTS, SUCH AS POSSIBLE NEW COFFEE AGREE-
MENT; THAT SECRETARY KISSINGER'S NEGOTIATIONS OF TREATIES BETWEEN
ISRAEL AND HER NEIGHBORS HAD BEEN CRITICAL FIRST STEPS TO PEACE IN
MIDDLE EAST AND WE CERTAILY RECOGNIZED THAT ULTIMATELY A SOLUTION HAD

TO BE FOUND TO THE PROBLEM OF THE PALESTIANIANS.

8. AMBASSADOR ALSO TOOK OPPORTUNITY TO PRESS ONCE MORE FOR IVORIAN
SUPPORT AT UNGA FOR PHNON PENH GOVERNMENT OF CAMBODIA. HOUPHOUET
MADE CLEAR HE WOULD NOT SUPPORT SIHANOUK, EVEN THOUGH LATTER WAS
AN OLD FRIEND, BECAUSE HE KNEW SIHANOUK HIMSELF COULD NOT SURVIVE IF
RETURNED TO POWER ("THE CAMBODIAN COMMUNISTS WOULD TREAT HIM LIKE AN
ORANGE: SQUEEZE OUT THE JUICE AND THROW AWAY THE FRUIT."). PRESI-
DENT SAID HE WOULD "NEVER VOTE AGAINST LON NOL GOVERNMENT." WHILE
AMBASSADOR PUSHED FOR A STATEMENT OF POSITIVE SUPPORT FOR RKG,
HOUPHOUET REPEATED THAT HE WOULD NEVER VOTE AGAINST. COMMENT:
THIS WOULD APPEAR TOCONFIRM USHER-EASUM CONVERSATION (REFTEL
B) THAT GOIC WILL ABSTAIN OR BE ABSENT.

9. COMMENT: WE FOUND PRESIDENT HOUPHOUET-BOIGNY IN TOP FORM. HE
LOOKED TIRED WHEN HE FIRST ARRIVED, EVEN THOUGH HE GREETED US WARMLY
AND POSED FOR PHOTOS (WHICH APPEARED ON FRONT PAGE OF FRATERNITE-
MATIN OCTOBER 4). BUT WHEN FOREIGN POLICY ISSUES WERE RAISED, HE
CAME TO LIFE AND 35-MINUTE MONOLOGUE WAS ANIMATED COMBINATION
OF LECTURE AT US AND COMMENTARY ON HISTORY, ECONOMY AND WORLD POLI-
CONFIDENTIAL

TICS. HE KNOWS HIS FACTS, HIS HISTORY AND MUCH OF CURRENT
AFFAIRS. HE REMAINS, DEEP DOWN, ANTI-ARAB, ANTI-COMMUNIST,
AND PRO-WEST, BUT A LOYAL AFRICAN AND MOST CONCERNED ABOUT
FUTURE OF HIS OWN COUNTRY.
SMITH

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

NNN

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PROWEST, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, POLITICAL SITUATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 05 OCT 1974
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: CollinP0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974ABIDJA08053
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740283-0118
From: ABIDJAN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19741069/aaaachca.tel
Line Count: 272
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 5
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Reference: A. USUN 3510; B. STATE 214655
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: CollinP0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29 APR 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <29 APR 2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <12 MAR 2003 by CollinP0>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MEETING WITH PRESIDENT HOUPHOUET-BOIGNY ON WORLD SITUATION CONFIDENTIAL
TAGS: ECON, EGEN, EIND, ENRG, PFOR, US, XB, IV, XA, UNGA
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005